

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

NOTICES OF MOTION AND ORDERS OF THE DAY.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

1. DR. LANG to move an address to his Excellency the Governor, requesting that there may be laid upon the table of this house, a copy of such correspondence as may have taken place in the case of a complaint preferred against Captain Fyans, Commissioner of Crown Lands in the District of Port Phillip, and Acting Superintendent, a gentleman holding a depurating license in that district, to the Superintendent of Port Phillip.
2. MR. WINDHORN to move for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the Jury Laws.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

1. Consideration of the Governor's Message on District Councils' Bill.

THURSDAY, JULY 4.

1. Law of Libel Bill; second reading.
2. Hawkens and Pedlars' Bill; second reading.
3. Apprentices' Bill; second reading.

FRIDAY, JULY 5.

1. DR. BLAND to move, that the Petition presented by him on the 19th instant, from certain Masters and Journeyman Printers, be taken into consideration.

ORDER OF THE DAY.

1. Customs' Bill; second reading.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24.

1. Catath in Sheep Act continuation Bill; second reading.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

1. DR. LANG to move, that a humble Address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen, praying that Her Royal Highness would be pleased to direct that the requisite steps may be taken for the speedy and entire separation of the District of Port Phillip from the Territory of New South Wales, and its erection into a separate and independent colony.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

1. DISTRICT COUNCILS.
(Ordered by the Council to be printed, 27th June, 1842.)

Return to an Address from the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated the 30th March, 1842, in which the Governor, and the Governor-General, were pleased to direct that the requisite steps may be taken for the speedy and entire separation of the District of Port Phillip from the Territory of New South Wales, and its erection into a separate and independent colony.

The only Despatch from the Secretary of State, respecting the establishment of District Councils, is that of the 5th September, 1842, in which these Councils are alluded to, as forming part of the Constitution given to the Colony, by the 5th and 6th Victoria, c. 76, and this Despatch was laid before the Council, at its first meeting, in August, 1842. No Despatch on the subject of District Councils, was addressed by the Governor of New South Wales to any Member of the State Legislature, recent in the Colony, of the said Act of Parliament. The following correspondence however took place in the years 1840, 1841, and 1842, in respect to the Bills which were laid before the Governor, before the late Legislative Council, for the Incorporation of the Towns of Sydney and Melbourne, and the election, in County Districts, of Commissioners of Police, and Public Works.

No. 1.

Extract from Lord John Russell's Despatch, to Sir George Gipps, No. 88, of the 28th June, 1840.

Sir—I have received your Despatch No. 102, of the 2nd December last, enclosing the Financial Statement and Estimate of the Revenue and Expenditure of the colony under your government, for the year 1839-40, together with a copy of the Act for appropriating the Revenue.

Edward Minot on the Finance for the year Henry 10, has attracted my serious attention.

Will it have pointed out very forcibly the policy

Hugh Letice of charging local expenses and local

3. WEDNESDAYS, appear to me to be marked

large and enlightened comprehension of

New true interest of the colony.

No. 2.

Extract from Sir George Gipps' Despatch, to Lord John Russell, dated the 17th July, 1840.

The main, and I believe I may say, the only source of discontent in the colony, is the long pending question of the payment by the colony of the whole of the expenses of its Police and Gaols; it is this never-ceasing cause of nearly all the actual trouble which is keeping up Her Majesty's Government, and myself; indeed I scarcely have had any difficulty to contend with, that may not be traced to this source. Not having had a reply as yet to any of my Despatches on Finance, I am obliged, in answer to the demands which are constantly made to me for explanations, as to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government in respect to this subject, to refer to the Despatch of Lord Colpoys, No. 20, of the 1st September, 1838, and to say, that I consider the determination of Her Majesty's Government, as communicated to me therein, to be conclusive.

The excessive anxiety manifested in the colony for the application of the whole of the Land Revenue to the purposes of immigration, may be traced also, in a great measure, to the same cause—inasmuch as the hope is indulged by many, that the Colonies will be made all the time that we are here upon Her Majesty's Government, and myself; indeed I scarcely have had any difficulty to contend with, that may not be traced to this source. Not having had a reply as yet to any of my Despatches on Finance, I am obliged, in answer to the demands which are constantly made to me for explanations, as to the intentions of Her Majesty's Government in respect to this subject, to refer to the Despatch of Lord Colpoys, No. 20, of the 1st September, 1838, and to say, that I consider the determination of Her Majesty's Government, as communicated to me therein, to be conclusive.

No. 3.

Extract from Sir George Gipps' Despatch to Lord John Russell, No. 95, of the 1st August, 1840.

Your Lordship will have observed that in my Address to the Council, which was transmitted by my Despatch, No. 20, of the 5th May last, No. 66, I stated it to be my intention to introduce a Bill, to cause each district of the colony to pay some portion of the expenses incurred within its limits, for Police and Gaols; and also to provide for the construction and maintenance of high roads and public works; and I have now to report, that, accordingly introduced, early in the session, on its second effect, a copy of which I enclose, to you, the Mayor alone is, ex officio, a Magistrate. I proposed that the Aldermen should be Magistrates also, in order to give greater dignity to the office, and to enter into some consideration in the colony.

The method which I have adopted is explained by the present Minute, and may briefly be recapitulated as follows:—

1. To charge upon the land fund the expenses of the survey and丈量, and the expenses on account of the topographical surveys.

2. To cover the expenses of erecting churches by sales of portions of the lands which were formerly the property of the Church and School Corporation.

3. To enforce payment of a portion of the outstanding quit-rents.

4. To raise the duties on spirits and imported goods, as the Council is authorised to do by the 3rd George IV., ch. 96, s. 2, and the 9th George IV., ch. 53, ss. 26 and 27.

Two reasons were prominently set forth in the Council for the rejection of the Bill which I have alluded to. That it was a measure expressly introduced to provide for the police, the expense of which, at least a portion of it, the Council has always maintained should be borne by the Home Government.

Thirdly, that the Council not being a Representative Body, ought not to impose any taxes on the people.

That the former reason, however, operated more strongly than the other, may be inferred from the fact, that I have since been requested by the Council to withdraw the same bill, and that accordingly I have again presented it, striking out only so much of it as relates to the police.

I have, &c.,
GEORGE GIpps.

No. 4.
Copy of a Despatch from Sir George Gipps to Lord John Russell, No. 120, of the 26th August, 1840.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th August, 1840.

My Lord,—In the Address with which I opened the present Session of the Legislative Council, and which was transmitted with my Despatch of the 29th May last, No. 66, your Lordship directed that I should introduce my intention of laying before the Council a Bill for the establishment of Municipal Corporations. I now transmit to your Lordship a copy of the Bill which I accordingly presented to the Council, but for, reasons hereafter to be mentioned.

Your Lordship is aware that, in addition to the general arguments in favour of Corporations, set forth in my Despatch, there is another

argument in favour of the admission of emancipists, grounded, first, on general expediency, or on the cruelty and impolicy of their exclusion; and, secondly, on the alleged illegality of their exclusion, since, by the Acts of the Imperial Parliament named in the margin, persons who have been pardoned, or who are usually called, to sets in the Colony.

The concessions to this class of persons, of the elective franchise, under the 4th clause of the Bill, may be considered, I think, as settled; but their admission to the Town Council will be more fully contested, and the more so if Aldermen, under the 47th clause, are to be Justices of the Peace.

I enclose an Act, which was passed towards the close of the Session, to provide for the Government of New South Wales, under the present form for another year.

Without the express authority of Parliament, there is certainly not inherent in the Crown or the Local Government the power necessary for creating Municipal Institutions for such purposes as those which you contemplated.

I enclose a Bill, which I have prepared for the Colony as Convicts, or Emancipists, as they are usually called, to sets in the Colony.

The sentiments which I myself expressed were, that notwithstanding the Acts of Parliament quoted, it was in my opinion competent to the Legislature to exclude them, if the circumstances of the colony, or any consideration of political requirement it; and that if any danger existed of persons of this class being elected in future, it would be necessary to make such enactments as would prevent their election, either by an amendment to the existing laws, or by a new law.

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